

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Forestry Commission smartphone app updated

Performance improvements require refreshing or redownloading the app

The South Carolina Forestry Commission has completed performance improvements to its smartphone app that require users to refresh or redownload the app, depending on which mobile platform is being used (iPhone or Android).

<u>iPhone users</u>:

- 1. Apple/iOS users should simply refresh the app, which can be done following these steps:
- 2. When you're in the app, swipe up from the bottom of the screen and pause it in the middle of the screen.
- 3. Then swipe up on the app's preview to close the app.
- 4. Finally, tap the app's icon to re-open it.

Android users:

Android users will need to redownload this app from the Google Play Store at the following address:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=io.appbuild.scforest&hl=en_GB&gl=US

Please remember to opt in to receiving push notifications when prompted during the app's installation! Push notifications will alert you about current burning bans, Red Flag fire alerts and other wildfire-related warnings. Notifications will never consist of ads or promotional messages.

Launched in 2020, the free SCFC smartphone app allows citizens, media and fire departments to view important wildfire-related news and alerts. The easy-to-use interface lets users:

- View all the current wildfires in the state. Pinch-zoom, then click, on any fire or notification to see its location, size and containment status;
- See all the current prescribed burns for forestry, wildlife and agriculture around the state;
- Check the day's fire weather in any region of the state;
- Watch the agency's videos on how to conduct legal debris burns, including making notification to the Forestry Commission and taking the proper precautions;
- Report a wildfire, arson, litter or other forest law violation.

The app is also a convenient way for fire departments to view information about the Federal Excess Property and Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant programs, both administered by the agency.

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The mission of the South Carolina Forestry Commission is to protect, promote and enhance South Carolina's forests for the benefit of all.

